



Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez

CENSUS ALERT

March 2000

Dear Religious Leader,

Knowing of the many people whose lives you touch every week, I ask you to remind your neighbors, parishioners, and community how important it is that they participate in the Census 2000. In mid-March, Census 2000 questionnaires will be mailed to households around the country. The data collected from the census will be the information cornerstone for the next century.

The results of Census 2000 will provide the basis for allocating billions of dollars in state and federal funding to programs and services vital to our community. The census is how America knows what America needs. In fact, many religious groups use the census numbers to plan for new facilities for their congregations. But if some segments of the population do not participate, they will be under-represented in the census numbers.

In the past, not everyone in Orange County was counted. In fact, the United States General Accounting Office estimates over the past decade, California has lost over \$2 billion in federal funds because of the undercount. Census 2000 is your chance to make sure that the new century begins with an accurate and complete picture of our community.

Census 2000 must enlist strong partners to achieve the most accurate and complete census possible. Your dedication to your congregation, as well as your credibility in the community, makes you an ideal partner for this critical endeavor. By helping us spread the word that the census is important and safe, you will play a key role in making Census 2000 a success.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at 714-621-0102 or your Census 2000 partnership specialist at 714-796-4600. The Census Bureau web site www.census.gov, also provides information about the census. Thank you very much for your support and participation.

Very truly yours,

Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress

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